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. . . Mr. T. W. Balch of Philadelphia and his brother Edwin are in St. Petersburg, engaged in the search for documents which they believe to be of such a nature as will bring about the final settlement of the Alaska boundary dispute. They have no recognized status with our government, but officials of the State Department are aware of their mission, and hope that they will succeed.

. . . It is reported that the British government is about to make an effort to secure an agreement of the powers, through the Hague tribunal or otherwise, by which they will pledge themselves not to allow their territories to be used as the base of supporting operations in war against a friendly nation, as has been done, they claim, by Holland and Belgium in giving asylum to Mr. Kruger, Dr. Leyds and other members of the Boer Junta in Europe.

. . . President Roosevelt issued a proclamation of general amnesty to the Filipinos on July 4. It declared the "insurrection" in the Philippines at an end and peace established in all parts of the archipelago, except the Moro territory. Complete amnesty was granted to all persons in the Philippines who had participated in the "insurrection."

. . . The United States government has decided to take cognizance of the appeal of Bolivia, to the extent of making an inquiry into the Acre territory dispute between that country and Brazil, caused by the lease of the territory to an Anglo-American syndicate.

. . . The Casualties of the American army in the Philippines up to April 30, fixed as the end of the "insurrection," are as follows: Killed or died of wounds, 69 officers and 936 enlisted men; deaths from disease, 47 officers and 2535 enlisted men; deaths from accidents, 6 officers and 125 enlisted men; drowned, 6 officers and 257 enlisted men; suicides, 10 officers and 72 enlisted men; murdered, 1 officer and 91 enlisted men. Total deaths, 139 officers and 4016 enlisted men. Wounded, 190 officers and 2707 enlisted men; a total of 2897. Killed and wounded and deaths other than by disease, 282 officers and 4188 enlisted men; total 4470.

. . . Great Britain and Japan have concluded an agreement with Korea and each other to guarantee the independence of Korea. This is said to be one of the fruits of Secretary Hay's diplomacy in the East, the purpose of which has been to maintain the *status quo*, and especially the integrity of China.

. . . The project of a treaty of arbitration between Great Britain and France, brought forward by Mr. Barclay, former president of the British Chamber of Commerce of Paris, has been approved by the French Chambers of Commerce of London, Dublin, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Clermont, Marseilles, Havre and Dunquerque, by the British Chamber of Commerce at Paris, and by the Chambers of Commerce of Bordeaux, Calais, Toulouse, Besançon, Lyon, Bolton and Douvres.

. . . The Korean Minister has been at The Hague conferring with the Netherlands Minister of Foreign Affairs for the adhesion of Korea to the Hague Conventions.

## Christianity and War.

*From the German of Bodenstedt.*

BY ERNEST H. CROSBY.

Talk, if you will, of hero deed,  
Of clash of arms and battle wonders;  
But prate not of your Christian creed  
Preached by the cannon's murderous thunders.

And if your courage needs a test,  
Copy the pagan's fierce behavior;  
Revel in bloodshed east and west,  
But speak not with it of the Saviour.

The Turk may wage a righteous war  
In honor of his martial Allah;  
But Thor and Odin live no more,  
Dead are the gods in our Valhalla.

Be what you will, entire and free,  
Christian or warrior, each can please us;  
But not the rank hypocrisy  
Of warlike followers of Jesus.

RHINEBECK, N. Y.

## Peace Over Africa.

BY EDWIN MARKHAM.

I

O bugles, ripple and shine,  
Ripple and rapture down the wavering line.  
Praise! Praise! Praise!  
For the last of the desperate days.  
Shake out the lyrical notes  
From your cavernous silvern throats;  
Burst into joy mad carols once again  
To herald the homing men.

O bugles, tell it to the opening sky,  
And go the roads of men with joyous cry.  
Peace on the wreath and the wreathless head —  
Peace over England, over Africa —  
Peace for the living, quiet on the dead —  
Peace on the souls hurled downward from the day,  
Hurled down with bated breath,  
To join the old democracy of Death.

II.

The challenge of the bugle and the glum  
Rejoinder of the drum,  
The neigh of startled stallions,  
The hurried rhythm of the hot battalions,  
The blown wild scent of crushed geranium,  
The parley of the howitzers, the shrill,  
Grim colloquy of bill with bill, —  
These had their fateful hour. But now, even now,  
A bird sings on a cannon-broken bough,  
Sings all the afternoon;  
And when dark falls  
On the short-torn walls,  
Frail wings will come to wander in the moon,  
Wander in long delight  
Through Africa's star-filled, delicious night.

III.

War's bitter root, and yet so fair a flower!  
Sing and be glad, O England, in this hour;  
But not as one who has no grief to bear,  
No memories, no burden, no despair.  
Be glad, but not as one who has no grief:  
The victor's laurel wears a wintry leaf.  
The clarions revel and the joy-bells rave,  
But what is all the glory and the gain  
To those wet eyes behind the misty pane,  
Whose Africa is crumpled to one grave,  
A lone grave at the mercy of the rain?